



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. ASC-063

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Currie *et al.* **CONFIRMATION NO.:** 7878
SERIAL NO.: 10/696,994 **GROUP NO.:** 2823
FILING DATE: October 30, 2003 **EXAMINER:** Brewster, W.
TITLE: METHODS FOR PRESERVING STRAINED SEMICONDUCTOR
SUBSTRATE LAYERS DURING CMOS PROCESSING

**RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP NO. 2823**

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P.O. Box 1450
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**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

In response to a final Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 18, 2005, Applicants respectfully request continued examination of the above-referenced application, and include herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal, as well as the following Amendment and Response. Applicants believe that no extension-of-time or other fee is due for this Amendment and Response to be entered and considered. However, please consider this a conditional petition for the proper extension, if one is required, and a conditional authorization to charge any related extension fees or other fees necessary for entry of this paper to Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2

Applicants' Remarks begin on page 5.